

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for enabling coordinated sessions of a television program and a synchronized presentation from a network server, said method comprising:
- 10 providing a synchronized data stream for being selectively transmitted by said network server, said synchronized data stream being selectively transmitted over a first interconnection network;
- 15 providing said television program for being selectively transmitted over a second interconnection network; and
- 20 coordinating said synchronized data stream with said television program such that at any given time, content from said synchronized data stream corresponds to content presented in said television program.
2. The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including:
- 25 displaying said television program on a first display device; and
- 30 processing said synchronized data stream to effect a server-based presentation on a second display device, said second display device being separate from said first display device.

3. The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including:

displaying said television program on a first display device; and

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coupling said synchronized data stream to a control device, said control device comprising a series of wireless control units with each of said wireless control units including a display means; and

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using said synchronized data stream to effect a presentation on at least one of said display means of said wireless control units.

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4. The method as set forth in claim 3 and further including transmitting said synchronized data stream to said wireless control unit over a radio frequency communication link from said control device.

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5. The method as set forth in claim 3 and further including transmitting said synchronized data stream to said wireless control unit over an infrared communication link from said control device.

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6. The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including:

displaying said television program on a first display device; and

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coupling said synchronized data stream to a control device, said control device comprising a series of wireless control

units with each of said wireless control units including a display means; and

using said synchronized data stream to effect concurrent
5 presentations on more than one of said display means of said wireless control units.

7. The method as set forth in claim 6 wherein a number of relatively unsynchronized datastreams are provided by said
10 server in addition to said synchronized data stream, and wherein any of said display means is enabled to display presentations based on any of said synchronized and said unsynchronized data streams.

8. The method as set forth in claim 3 and further including enabling said control device to determine a channel
15 selection at which said first display device is set, said control device being enabled to selectively transmit said channel selection to said server to identify a corresponding
20 datastream from said server.

9. The method as set forth in claim 6 wherein said display means comprise touch-sensitive display screens by which
25 users are enabled to make selections by applying pressure to selected display screen areas.

10. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said first interconnection network is an Internet connection and said
30 second interconnection network is a television transmission network.

11. A medium containing machine-readable code, said code being selectively readable to provide program signals for executing a method for enabling coordinated sessions of a television program and a synchronized presentation from a network server, said method comprising:

providing a synchronized data stream for being selectively transmitted by said network server, said synchronized data stream being selectively transmitted over a first interconnection network;

providing said television program for being selectively transmitted over a second interconnection network; and

coordinating said synchronized data stream with said television program such that at any given time, content from said synchronized data stream corresponds to content presented in said television program.

12. The medium as set forth in claim 11 wherein said method further includes:

displaying said television program on a first display device; and

processing said synchronized data stream to effect a server-based presentation on a second display device, said second display device being separate from said first display device.

13. The medium as set forth in claim 11 wherein said method further includes:

displaying said television program on a first display

5 device; and

coupling said synchronized data stream to a control device, said control device comprising a series of wireless control units with each of said wireless control units including a

10 display means; and

using said synchronized data stream to effect a presentation on at least one of said display means of said wireless control units.

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14. The medium as set forth in claim 13 wherein said method further includes transmitting said synchronized data stream to said wireless control unit over a radio frequency communication link from said control device.

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15. The medium as set forth in claim 13 wherein said method further includes transmitting said synchronized data stream to said wireless control unit over an infrared communication link from said control device.

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16. The medium as set forth in claim 11 wherein said method further includes:

displaying said television program on a first display

30 device; and

coupling said synchronized data stream to a control device, said control device comprising a series of wireless control units with each of said wireless control units including a display means; and

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using said synchronized data stream to effect concurrent presentations on more than one of said display means of said wireless control units.

10 17. The medium as set forth in claim 16 wherein a number of relatively unsynchronized datastreams are provided by said server in addition to said synchronized data stream, and wherein any of said display means is enabled to display presentations based on any of said synchronized and said
15 unsynchronized data streams.

18. The medium as set forth in claim 13 wherein said method further includes enabling said control device to determine a channel selection at which said first display device is set,
20 said control device being enabled to selectively transmit said channel selection to said server to identify a corresponding datastream from said server.

19. The medium as set forth in claim 16 wherein said display
25 means comprise touch-sensitive display screens by which users are enabled to make selections by applying pressure to selected display screen areas.

20. The medium as set forth in claim 11 wherein said first
30 interconnection network is an Internet connection and said second interconnection network is a television transmission network.

21. An information management system comprising:

a server device for providing a synchronized data stream for
being selectively transmitted over a first interconnection

5 network;

a television station for providing said television program
for being selectively transmitted over a second
interconnection network; and

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means for coordinating said synchronized data stream with
said television program such that at any given time, content
from said synchronized data stream corresponds to content
presented in said television program.

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